

NASSAU INQUIRY TO FIX BLAME IN HOLT SUICIDE

Supervisors Angered by
Laxity of Guard—Prosec-
utor Not to Act.

COTTAGE LANDLORD GETS DEATH THREAT

Schiff, Doubleday, Swan and
Others Ask Special Protec-
tion for Estates.

Laxity of the Nassau County officials in inquiring into the carelessness which made possible the suicide of Erich Muentner, alias Frank Holt, has roused the Board of Supervisors to wrath. Since District Attorney Lewis J. Smith has washed his hands of the matter and has refused to place the blame for the dynamiter's death upon any one, the board has determined to hold an investigation of its own into the conditions which existed in the jail.

The District Attorney has refused to co-operate with the board in this move and has asserted that it has no authority to act, but the laxity of the guard which was kept over Holt has aroused public sentiment in Nassau, and the supervisors will meet to-morrow to try to place the fault where it belongs.

Philip J. Christ, of North Hempstead, chairman of the board, said yesterday that since he and his associates authorize the expenditures of the county they believe that they have the right of inquiry into how their appropriations are spent. He pointed out especially that two years ago it was called to the attention of the board that keepers in the jail were forced to work twelve hours a day. At that time money was voted for the hiring of two more keepers and an eight-hour shift installed. The board now wants to know why Jerry O'Ryan stood guard twelve hours over Holt.

It also wishes an explanation of the fact that while other prisoners were kept behind locked doors Holt's cell was open. The accusation of laxity and carelessness aimed at Nassau County officials by the New York papers in commenting upon Holt's death has been responsible for the arousal of the board's indignation.

Residents Ask Protection.

Fearing that the attack upon J. P. Morgan may be duplicated upon them, various wealthy residents of Nassau circulated yesterday a petition to the Board of Supervisors, asking that the county police be established to guard them and their homes. Among the signers are Mortimer L. Schiff, who owns a country home at Syosset; Frank N. Doubleday, who lives at Oyster Bay; Commodore William J. Swan and many other owners of extensive estates. Some criticism already has been directed at the petition, the average taxpayer being unwilling to have his assessments increased for the benefit of a few wealthy persons. It is not known yet what action the supervisors will take in the matter.

It was a flurry of excitement to-day in Nassau when Lewis Ott, who rented to Holt the cottage at Central Park where the dynamiter prepared his explosives, received a letter threatening his life, unless he kept silent. The communication is written upon a sheet of brown paper in an excellent hand, and is embellished with clear sketches of a lighted bomb, a heart with a dagger thrust through it and a black hand. It says:

"Beware, you are going too far. Frank Holt owed you nothing. You did not keep quiet, yet. You can't be a German or anything else. Tell dem other yaps this morning. If this is published in the papers or you try to say it traced, you will be among the missing. The war must be stopped. So beware, beware!"

Although Holt, Sheriff Pettit and Warden Hulme of the Nassau County Jail are absent on their vacations, the inquest into the death of Frank Holt was held yesterday in Hempstead before Coroner Walter R. Jones.

Holt Was Not Shot.

The fact that Holt was not shot, but died from a fractured skull and cerebral hemorrhage, was the chief point brought out by the investigation, which was otherwise formal, with O'Ryan's testimony furnishing the only picturesque note.

He told of his vigil over Holt on the last night of his life, of how the would-be assassin of J. P. Morgan moaned "Oh, I want to sleep so badly!" and of how later he peered into the cell and said to himself, "Gee, he's in a nice sleep."

"Then I heard a little noise and said, 'Gee, he mustn't be waked up, and went away to quiet him."

The witness related of how he heard what sounded like a pistol shot, and returned to Holt's cell to find it empty and the prisoner lying twenty feet further along the corridor, with his head in a pool of blood. When it was suggested that O'Ryan might have slept on duty, he denied this indignantly.

E. Cornell, the undertaker, testified briefly that the wound in Holt's head was not a bullet hole.

At the suggestion of the Assistant District Attorney the inquest was then adjourned until July 16.

MINNEHAHA FIRED
BY MUEENTER BOMB

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boats swung out in readiness in the event an explosion occurred.

At a quarter after 4 that afternoon, when the ship was 570 miles southeast of Halifax, something let go in the third compartment, and the ship trembled violently. One of the hatch covers shot off, carrying two sailors with it ten feet in the air. One was

slightly injured, but the other escaped without a scratch. When the first excitement had been controlled, another hatch cover was opened and enough of the freight removed to enable the workers to reach within striking distance of the flames that were rapidly shooting through hold No. 3.

A steam pipe was inserted and steam driven into the hold. Soon the fire appeared to be under control, but Captain Claret resolved not to take any chances, and at 1 o'clock turned his prow toward Halifax.

It was well that he did so, for that night the fire gained headway, finally reaching the main adjoining hold. Throughout the night the crew fought desperately, doubtful of the outcome but determined to stand by to the last.

Gale Hinders Work.

Yesterday they got the upper hand of the flames. Meantime the weather became unfavorable, and early to-day a heavy southwest gale arose. This, combined with a thick fog, compelled the steamer to remain off Sarnia for some hours, and she did not reach anchorage until early afternoon.

Describing his experience, one of the officers said:

"I was down below Wednesday afternoon when at 4:15 o'clock a tremendous explosion was heard. The ship trembled from stem to stern with the force of it. I rushed on deck. Dense smoke was already pouring out of the holds. In a few minutes the deck below the spot whence the smoke was coming.

"There was a large quantity of freight on top of No. 4 hatch. It was holed down by stout cables. We pitched into that freight and had it off in five minutes. Then we put a steam pipe down. When we let the air blow, the hold should have been on fire. I don't want to say anything like it again when I have nothing under me but a ship. We were fully twenty-four hours getting the flames under control. We pitched into the No. 3 deck below and extended to hold No. 4. Fortunately for us there was no ammunition in those holds. The ammunition was scattered from the fire by stout bulkheads.

"There is no doubt whatever that a bomb did the work. When I was working around the holds I was assaulted by the most suffocating fumes. The crew smelled like a boiling water factory, if you know that odor."

"When we left New York I felt that we were in for trouble."

Longshoremen Looked Suspicious.

This officer explained that he had not liked the looks of some of the longshoremen who had loaded the vessel and said that as she steamed down the harbor he had seen some of the occupants of which shouted "Minnehaha, down, down," at the same time pointing to the water. "You cannot tell me," he concluded, "that these fellows did not place a bomb had been placed in our ship."

One of the crew said: "We knew on Wednesday morning something was wrong, because the crew ordered the boats to get ready. I said to myself, 'The old man has got wind of a submarine.' When the explosion occurred everybody rushed on deck and I ran to the side and looked for the wreckage, for I was sure we had been torpedoed."

"There was no wreckage to be seen anywhere. Then the smoke began to pour out of the hatches. I knew that it was a bomb that had done the damage."

Knew How Explosion Felt.

G. Leonard, able seaman, who went up with the life cover, commented: "It was an explosion, all right. I have been there before, and I know. Me and my mate, Wright, were pretty well shaken up by the blast, but we were not hurt. I ran to the side and looked for the splinter was thrown overhead."

"We did not see any suspicious characters around the pier at New York, but I suppose it was a bomb that did the work."

Heavy jets of steam were still being poured into the holds to-night and will be kept in operation until it is felt safe to open the holds.

While no definite arrangements have been made, it is probable that lighters will be sent down to Quarantine, and on these the cargo in the foreholds will be unloaded and brought to the city. Under present conditions it has been deemed advisable not to bring the steamer to a city dock.

SAYS J. P. MORGAN HEADS CONSPIRACY

H. R. Fowler Charges Unneutral
Use of Federal Reserve
Funds.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, July 9.—Representative H. Robert Fowler, of Illinois, general counsel for Labor's National Peace Council, made public to-night a letter to the Federal Reserve Board, charging that the funds of the Federal Reserve banks are being put to illegal and unneutral use by J. P. Morgan & Co. and other American bankers.

"The persons chiefly responsible for, and the dominant factors in, this conspiracy," the letter states, "are the members of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. and certain other persons now serving as officers and directors of the Federal Reserve banks and member banks, who secured these positions through the influence of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., or other business allies of said firm, who are subject to an under control of its influence."

The First National Bank, National City Bank, National City Bank and National City Bank of Commerce, according to Congressman Fowler's letter, are charged with being parties to the conspiracy, in that they made loans, discounts and advances to the Federal Reserve banks, which were being drawn in the ordinary course of legitimate business by J. P. Morgan & Co., but which in reality constituted a violation of the Federal Reserve Act.

It is charged that additional credits to the extent of \$300,000,000 are now being arranged for under the same "conspiracy" and that these sums are planned to be obtained through the Federal Reserve system by a studied deception of its officers.

The letter cites many cases and arguments in support of its contentions, and urges the Federal Reserve Board to take strong and drastic preventive action.

"Your doing so," it concludes, "will avoid much trouble and confusion to our country, but as a very last word of warning, we know to be the sentiment of the laboring people of the United States, we say to your honorable board that end it shall, if not by your action then by other means."

GERMANY'S NOTE
PLEASES BRYAN

Glad of Indicated Desire to
Reach Understanding, Says
Ex-Secretary.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

San Francisco, July 9.—The latest German note was read to ex-Secretary Bryan over the long distance telephone to Santa Cruz to-night. All he would say was this:

"I am glad Germany has indicated a desire to reach a satisfactory understanding with the United States in this situation."

700 YARD GAIN IN VOSGES WON BY FRENCH GUNS

Germans Driven from Hill
Top Trenches Along
600-Yard Front.

LE PRETRE ADVANCE CLAIMED BY PARIS

British Report Capture of 200
Yards of Trenches
Above Ypres.

London, July 9.—A victory that appears to be the most important on the Western front for some months has been won by the French in the Vosges. Paris reports that the army has retaken the trenches captured by the Germans on June 22, and has continued its advance for a gain of 700 yards along a 600-yard front. The German statement admits that hilltop trenches, destroyed by French artillery fire, had to be evacuated.

The French also report having recaptured a part of the trenches recently taken by the Germans between Feyn-Haye and Le Pretre Forest, but the German claim to an advance in the same neighborhood, where heavy fighting has been in progress for several days.

On the other hand, the Germans claim a repulse of the French attacks at Souchez, and assert that the Teutonic troops have made further progress in the Woivre region, where they state, they captured some trenches and 250 prisoners.

British Gain Above Ypres.

Further British gains north of Ypres, where 200 yards of German trenches were captured on July 6, are reported by Field Marshal John French, who says:

"Since the successful enterprise north of Ypres, reported in the command on July 5, the enemy has made repeated attempts to retake his lost trenches. All his counter attacks have been stopped by the successful cooperation of our own and the French artillery."

"This morning, after a bombardment which lasted two days and two nights, the enemy felt back along a 600-yard front, and we extended our gains. In addition to the prisoners already reported, we captured a machine gun and three trench mortars. All reports indicate that the enemy's attack was repulsed, and that he is now endeavoring to bring his counter attacks, have been severe."

The French official statement to-night says:

"The day has been comparatively quiet on the front."

Other nations in whose quarrel we have an interest, Wright was saying. We are not called upon to interfere where England injures Germany and Germany takes measures of reprisal solely against her enemy. It is when our own rights are being violated that we enter upon the scene, and only then."

No New Guarantees.

The guarantees to American ships engaged in non-contraband traffic, it was recalled, had been given in previous notes, and as for the proposal to protect the lives of American passengers traveling on ships of belligerent nations under certain stipulations, it was pointed out that the United States had already taken a stand against the imposition of any such conditions.

Many officials expressed the opinion that it would be an unneutral act for this government to designate certain ships as coming under the German guarantee, which would be a tacit declaration that all ships so marked could be torpedoed with impunity so far as the United States was concerned.

Further than this, it was suggested that if at any time a belligerent vessel hostile to Germany should be similarly marked or designated by her crew as a ruse de guerre to avoid submarines, Germany might consider it within her rights to hold the United States accountable. This, it is believed, would result in a situation parallel to that created by the sinking of the American flag ship, which was held by Germany to constitute an excuse for torpedoing all vessels of whatever nationality in the war zone.

Germany's offer to permit Americans to travel unmolested on a certain limited number of ships was regarded as totally unacceptable to this government, and reference was made by officials to the previous notes, in which the President asserted the right of Americans to travel on lawful errands on peaceful ships of all nations, whether or not they carry contraband. It is pointed out that the German war zone declaration, the same principles were enunciated in the two notes that followed the sinking of the Lusitania.

Germany's contention in the present note, that the Lusitania was not expected to sink in so short a time, is regarded by many officials as an affront to the intelligence of American diplomacy.

"It is childish for Germany to urge," one official said, "that the Lusitania should not have sunk so quickly. The answer that would occur to any one is that it was neither faulty construction nor poor explosives in the hold that caused her to sink. It was a German torpedo, fired without warning, and in direct contravention of the law of nations."

Appeal to the People.

Germany's effort to shift the onus to Great Britain is regarded by many officials as an appeal to the sympathies of the American people, rather than a sincere attempt to meet the arguments of the American government.

The principle of reprisal is admitted by officials, and this government would be extremely unlikely, it is said, to make any complaints if such reprisals were directed solely at the British government or at British citizens. The effect of the reprisals in this case, however, has been to transgress the rights of Americans, and officials declare this government will insist that such practices cease.

In the language of one high official, "this note is in no way a reply to our representations. The position of the United States was taken on purely legal grounds, although the references to humanitarian principles were included to further substantiate them."

Germany's reply is purely and simply an appeal to the American people for sympathy and makes no legal argument whatsoever.

"To enter into a discussion on such a basis would be fatal. It would oblige us to investigate alleged atrocities, it would place us in the position of an umpire in the great struggle that is going on. We should be obliged to take an active part in the interest

quiet on the whole front. There was no infantry action. The enemy continued to bombard Arras with shells of a heavy caliber. There were some rather violent artillery actions between the Oise and the Aisne rivers, in the Champagne region, between the Meuse and the Moselle rivers, and in the Forest of Apremont. In the Argonne there were rifle and cannon exchanges, but no important infantry engagements."

French Gain in Le Pretre.

"West of the Moselle, between Feyn-Haye and the Forest of Le Pretre, French troops, by the use of hand grenades, were successful in retaking about 150 yards of the trenches lost by us July 4. At Croix-des-Carmes the enemy delivered an attack yesterday evening along a front of 350 yards. This was followed by a bombardment by aeroplanes, which threw down torpedoes, and the hurling of burning liquids. After having been successful in gaining a footing in the trenches, the Germans were driven out of these positions by an immediate counter attack. They were able to maintain themselves only in some few of our trenches."

"In the Vosges our troops have organized the positions taken by us at Fontenelle. Our artillery fire, by its systematic sweep, has made impossible every return of the enemy. At the same time our centre batteries put an effective stop to the German bombardment."

Win 700 Yards in Vosges.

"In the region of Ban-de-Sapt we gained a notable success. After having driven the enemy from that portion of our old positions which they captured on June 22, we took possession of all the defensive positions of the German line, and the enemy was driven out of these positions as far as the road running from Lannois to Moyon-Moutier. This total gain represents an advance of 700 yards along a front of 600 yards."

The German Army Headquarters Staff gave out this official statement: "A French attack north of the sugar refinery at Souchez was repulsed. Small bodies of men who penetrated into our positions were killed."

"Up to the present we have not succeeded in clearing the enemy from the sector which we lost the day before yesterday west of Souchez."

"The report circulated by the French army administration regarding the capture of German cannons is incorrect."

"East of Ailly unsuccessful isolated attacks took place. We captured by storm several French lines of trenches extending over a width of 350 yards and joining our newly captured positions in the Forest of Le Pretre to the east. On this occasion we captured 250 prisoners and four machine guns. The enemy's artillery preparation the enemy attacked Hill 651, near Ban-de-Sapt, which we captured on June 22 by storm. We were forced to evacuate the destroyed trenches on top of the hill."

U-BOATS SINK TWO SHIPS

Russian and British Vessels
Sunk and Third Is Shelled.

London, July 9.—Two steamships were sunk and a third shelled by German submarines yesterday and to-day. There was no loss of life.

The British steamer Guido, from Hull for Archangel, was sunk off the coast of Scotland. The Russian bark Marion was sunk off the coast of Norway. The Russian steamer Anna, from Archangel for Hull, was shelled in the North Sea and is reported to be on fire. She was landed at Peterhead, Scotland, to-day.

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THREE BRITISH BANKS TAKE \$310,000,000 LOAN

London, July 9.—The London City and Midland Bank and Lloyd's Bank each applied to-day for \$105,000,000 worth of the new British war loan of \$1,250,000,000. These are by far the largest subscriptions yet announced.

The London County and Westminster Bank subscribed for \$100,000,000.

TURKS AND ARABS THREATENING ADEN

Cross Aden Hinterland in Force
and Compel the British to
Fall Back.

London, July 9.—Turkish forces from Yemen, Southwest Arabia, supported by Arabs, are threatening Aden, the British free port, according to an official report issued by the British Press Bureau to-night.

The Turks, with a large number of Arabs and field guns, crossed Aden Hinterland, near Lahaj, compelling a British force to fall back on Aden. This occurred on July 5.

ATTEMPTS TO KILL SULTAN OF EGYPT

Assailant Hurls Bomb from Win-
dow, but Projectile Falls
to Explode.

London, July 10.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Alexandria states that while the Sultan of Egypt was going to prayer a bomb was thrown from a window and fell at the feet of the horses, but did not explode. The person who threw the bomb escaped.

TURK BAND INVADES BULGARIAN THRACE

Kills Ten Persons in Kavack in
Attempt to Intimidate
Government.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Athens, July 9 (dispatch to "The London Daily News").—A Turkish band has entered Bulgarian Thrace, murdering the Mayor's secretary, the head of police and eight others, in the village of Kavack.

The band acted on the instructions of Turks, who are trying to frighten Bulgaria into the belief that, should the attack Turkey, the inhabitants of Thrace, comprising many Turks, would revolt.

HOLD FOOD UNLESS BELGIANS MAKE ARMS

Germans Won't Distribute Com-
missions' Supplies Until Citi-
zens Aid Army.

Rotterdam, July 9.—It is reported here that the German military authorities in several of the Belgian provinces, in an effort to force the civilians to work for the army of occupation, have withheld food supplies sent in by the Commission for the Relief of Belgium.

In Malines the supply of food is said to have been stopped because the mechanics refused to work in the railroad shops. At Courtrai the workers are reported to have been deprived of food because of their refusal to work in the manufacture of munitions, while similar action was taken at Roubais on the refusal of the workers to make sandbags for trenches.

SIR THOMAS LIPTON PRAISES RED CROSS

Says Work of American Sur-
geons and Nurses Against
Typhus Is Miraculous.

Washington, July 9.—Sir Thomas Lipton, writing from his yacht Erin, which he has converted to a British hospital ship, to Miss Mabel Boardman, of the American Red Cross, pays a tribute to the effectiveness of the work of American surgeons and nurses in Serbia, Montenegro and elsewhere.

"The first time I was at Ghevgeli," Sir Thomas writes in picturing the transformation in Serbia, "there were 1,400 patients there, mostly with typhus. When I was there the other day there were only three typhus cases."

Sir Thomas describes the work of Dr. Richard B. Strong, the Harvard professor of tropical diseases in charge of the American sanitary commission in Serbia and Montenegro, and that of his staff as "miraculous."

BRITISH MILLS BLOWN UP Powder Works at Hounslow Destroyed and Many Hurt.

London, July 9.—The big Curtis powder mills at Hounslow, Middlesex, were virtually destroyed to-day by a series of explosions which occurred soon after a hundred men had commenced work. The explosion was heard for ten miles.

It was stated at the mills that only one person had been killed, but that a great many persons had been injured by flying debris.

A preliminary explosion of small violence gave a warning which enabled most of the workers to flee the building.

NEW CREDIT FOR FRANCE

Brown Brothers Negotiating
\$20,000,000 Deal.

Official announcement was made yesterday by Brown Brothers & Co. of negotiations with French bankers looking toward the establishment of a commercial export credit for France in this market. The loan, the initial amount of which will probably be \$20,000,000, will take the form of acceptances to be drawn by the French bankers upon banking houses and institutions here, prominent among which will be J. P. Morgan & Co.

A member of the Paris banking house of the Rothschilds conferred with several New York bankers connected with the loan yesterday, but he stated that the matter had not yet been closed. It was reported, however, that the amount may eventually run as high as \$100,000,000.

SEE INTRIGUE TO GET HALDANE INTO MINISTRY

Northcliffe Papers De-
nounce Asquith's Tribute
to Ex-Chancellor.

GERMAN SYMPATHY SHOWN IN TALKS

Politicians Plan an Airing in
Parliament to Force the
Premier's Hand.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Appleton, Wis., July 9.—An attempt was made last night to wreck a train on the Northwestern Railroad, Ashland division, in the Fox River valley, two miles from the local station. A mill watchman discovered that the track was covered with railroad ties, bound together with wire, at a spot where the track, cut in the slope of a side hill, is just above the bank of the river.

News of a similar attempt to wreck a night train a few weeks ago was suppressed until to-day.

Both attempts were on the eve of railroad shipments of high explosives from the Du Pont Company's plant at Washburn. The railroad detectives have been working on the theory that the train wrecking was being tried to destroy the powder shipments.

FIGHT FANS CHEER SUFFRAGIST IN RING

Syracuse Crowd Gives Woman
Speaking for Cause a
Rousing Reception.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Syracuse, July 9.—More than 2,000 prizefight fans, assembled in the Arena to-night to watch eight bouts in the intercity series, gave Miss Elizabeth Freeman, of London, a rousing reception when she spoke for the suffrage cause.

The suffragists are in the ring and prepared to fight," she said. "They will fight a clean battle. They don't care who is the referee. They are in the scrap to stay and they're fighting a winning battle."